

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CORRY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 24, 2023**

A Regular Board Meeting of the Corry Area Board of School Directors was held on Monday, April 24, 2023, in the Administration Office LGI. President Joseph A. Frisina called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present Directors: Amy L. Allen, Justin R. Amy, Joel A. Cook, Amanda J. Cox, Joseph A. Frisina, Doris P. Gernovich, Jason D. Halfast, L. Jon Maker, William A. Nichols

Excused Directors: None

Also Present: Sheri L. Yetzer – Superintendent, Brenda L. Clabbatz – Business Manager, Kim Spence – Secretary to Superintendent, Bill West – Director of Secondary Education, Dan Daum – Director of Elementary Education, Michele Miller – Cyber Administrator/Homeless, home School and Foster Liaison, Mike Munsee – Director of Buildings and Grounds, Sue Bogert – Supervisor of Vocational Education, Teresa Pearce – CAPS Principal, Melissa Nuhfer – CAIS Principal, Jordan Lander – Assistant Elementary Principal, Andy Passinger – HS Principal, Susie Brown – Assistant HS Principal, Megan Simmons – Teacher/CAEA Representative, Greg Simmons – Teacher, Mya Grubbs – Teacher

Media: Chloe Forbes – The Corry Journal

Guests: Eric Shotts, Jodie Shotts, Larry Barker, Anita Baker, Joanne Smith, Michelle Hunt, Darlene Mulligan, Mike Baker

**MOMENT OF SILENCE/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

MOTION by Director Gernovich and seconded by Director Cook to approve the agenda for April 24, 2023.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**APPROVED  
MINUTES OF  
3/13/23 & 3/27/23**

MOTION BY Director Cook and seconded by Director Amy to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meetings on March 13 and 27, 2023.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

Mike Baker spoke to the amount of time the City of Corry Treasurer spends (about 1/3 of his time) on per capita tax, therefore they eliminated the tax and would encourage the district to do the same.

Eric Shotts referenced a recent concern with transportation after his son had an accident on the bus. He felt proper communication and action was not taken. He feels bussing policies should be on a case by case scenario and there should be more flexibility.

Michele Hunt spoke to the unfairness of the per capita tax and provided an example of a recent sale of a home with a married couple, but only one name on the deed and not being able to identify the spouse due for the per capita. She also referenced the age 66 exoneration option and how not everyone knows about this and there should be a mass communication effort to notify tax payers.

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**STAFF COMMENT** Mr. Lander shared a presentation showcasing the many events that have been occurring at the elementary schools. CAPS had a glow in the dark egg hunt and CAIS had a spring band concert. They had their Open Houses along with the Scholastic Book Fair, where they raise approximately \$16,000 in just three days. He also highlighted some events and learning activities focused on Earth Day. A reminder also that PSSAs are happening this week and next at CAIS.

Mrs. Bogert shared information about the work programs offered to students. Currently, 48 students are participating – 16 in capstone who are in CTC programs, 7 diversified occupations working in the field they plan to pursue after graduation and 25 out gaining work experience. There are also 10 students on adapted schedules who are out working at various employers. There are also 26 juniors who completed coursework through February and are now out get work exposure through the Corridors Program. This is non-paid work experience that we hope will lead to diversified occupations next year. She also highlighted some recent field trips that focused on career fairs and local continuing educational opportunities. For the first time ever, they will be taking two students from the cosmetology program to sit for their state licensure exam. Finally, on May 5<sup>th</sup> in the East Gym at 1:20 PM, we will be hosting Decision Day here to recognize any senior who has made a commitment to their future in the military, further education or have a full time employment offer.

**APPROVED  
CHECK, WIRE  
TRANSFERS &  
DIRECT DEPOSITS** MOTION by Director Cook and seconded by Director Gernovich to approve checks, wire transfers, and direct deposits from March 23 through April 19, 2023, totaling \$3,610,952.85, as presented on the attached payments summaries.  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None

MOTION by Director Gernovich and seconded by Director Amy to approve Board Check No. 46697 in the amount of \$1,118.83, payable to J.H. Auto Parts Inc.  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Gernovich, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAINED: Frisina, Halfast

**APPROVED  
BUSINESS  
MANAGER'S  
REPORT** MOTION by Director Cox and seconded by Director Nichols to approve the Business Manager's Report for March 2023.  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None

**DENIED PER  
CAPITA TAX  
RESOLUTION** MOTION by Director Gernovich and seconded by Director Nichols to approve contracting with Berkheimer, for a two-year contract, as the Per Capita Tax collection agency for Erie and Warren Counties.  
Director Cox stated that although this tax does seem unfair, she feels it is unfair to continue to put the burden on property owners. She feels Berkheimer will be able to collect significantly more than is being collected now. Director Gernovich was pleased Berkheimer was willing to accommodate a two-year contract. Director Nichols stated that this is already a tax and he hopes that Berkheimer will help to locate those being missed. Director Amy and Director Maker stated it is an unnecessary burden on tax payers. It was clarified that Crawford County residents would still have a per capita tax from the county and municipalities, but not from the school district.  
YEAS: Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Nichols  
NAYS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Halfast, Maker

**APPROVED  
RENOVATION  
CHANGE ORDERS** MOTION by Director Nichols and seconded by Director Amy to approve the CASD Renovations – RFCO-13 – with Considine Biebel & Company – for 60 hours T&M Labor for \$4,553.00.  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None

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**APPROVED  
PROPERTY TAX  
EXEMPTIONS**

MOTION by Director Amy and seconded by Director Nichols to approve the following requests for exemption from real estate property taxes for:

1. Frank Lackovic, 111 Patchen Rd, Spring Creek, PA, per letter from Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
2. Robert W Hill, 20333 Route 89, Corry, PA, per letter from Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**APPROVED  
SUMMER  
PROGRAMS**

MOTION by Director Gernovich and seconded by Director Cook to approve the following Summer Programs:

1. Elementary Summer Program to be held Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at CAPS, beginning June 12 through June 29, 2023.
2. High School Summer Program to be held Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at CAIS, beginning June 12 through June 30, 2023.
3. Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) to be held Monday through Thursday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at CAPS, beginning June 12 through June 29, 2023.
4. Classroom Driver's Education to be held Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM, at CAIS, beginning June 12 through June 30, 2023.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**APPROVED LIEP  
PROGRAM  
SERVICES**

MOTION by Director Gernovich and seconded by Director Nichols to approve the contract for Language Instructional Education Program (LIEP) services with IU5 for the 2023/24 school year. It was clarified that the school district only pays for services utilized under this contract.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**APPROVED ELECT  
PROGRAMMING**

MOTION by Director Cook and seconded by Director Amy to approve participation in ELECT Programming (Education Leading to Employment and Career Training) through a consortium administered through Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 5, for a five-year period at no cost to the district.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols

NAYS: None

**APPROVED FIELD  
TRIP REQUESTS**

MOTION by Director Nichols and seconded by Director Cook to approve the following field trip requests:

1. Building Maintenance – 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade (21 students) April 25, 2023  
Carpenters Training Center Pittsburgh, PA  
Under the Supervision of: Brock Jaquith
2. Corry EPIC-Lead and Seed May 1&2, 2023  
The Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA  
Under the Supervision of: EPIC Outreach Coordinator Theresa Laird, plus 2 ECDOH Educators
3. Prom Committee set up – 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> grade (11 students) May 11, 2023  
Peek'n Peak Clymer, NY  
Under the Supervision of: Stephanie Bennett and Sheri Williams
4. Prom Volunteers – 10<sup>th</sup> grade (4 students) May 12, 2023  
Peek'n Peak Clymer, NY  
Under the Supervision of: Stephanie Bennett
5. CTC – ROVA Program Camp – 11<sup>th</sup> grade (4 students) May 21 – 22, 2023  
Camp Nazareth Mercer, PA  
Under the Supervision of: Sue Bogert or Jen Dow

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**APPROVED FIELD  
TRIP REQUESTS  
(cont.)**

6. Senior Class Picnic – 12<sup>th</sup> grade (130 students) June 5, 2023  
Peek’n Peak Clymer, NY  
Under the Supervision of: Erica DiLuzio, Monica March and Stacey Reynolds, plus 6 chaperones  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None

**APPROVED  
PERSONNEL  
ITEMS**

MOTION by Director Cox and seconded by Director Gernovich to approve the following personnel items:

1. To accept the resignation of Peggy Swan, Cafeteria, effective April 14, 2023.
2. To accept the resignation of Debora Mead, Grade II Paraprofessional, for the purpose of retirement effective June 9, 2023.
3. To accept the resignation of Katie DeSanto, Elementary Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
4. To accept the following resignations from supplemental positions:

Todd Knapp	Assistant Boys Track Coach – effective immediately
Rob Elchynski	Head Girls Basketball Coach – effective immediately
Paula Carey	Student Council Advisor – effective end of 2022/23 school year

5. To approve Janielle Cressley as a Category I Volunteer for Track and Field for the 2022/23 school year.
6. To approve the appointment of Brendan Boucher as Assistant Middle School Girls Soccer Coach for the 2022/23 school year at a supplemental salary of \$1,772.00 (Step 1).
7. To approve the appointment of Kenneth Mahan, as a Substitute Custodian, effective April 5, 2023.
8. To approve Richard Tinko and George Valletti, Jr., Temporary Summer Lawn Care employees, at an hourly rate of \$12.50/hour.
9. To approve Stephanie Mraz, employed by D&R Transportation, as an additional Bus Driver for the 2022/23 school year.

YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Gernovich, Halfast, Nichols  
NAYS: None

**OTHER MATTERS  
BY BOARD  
MEMBERS**

Director Gernovich shared that the IU is continuing to help recruit employees because there is a shortage across the state. In regards to Board Policy No. 111 – Lesson Plans. A lot of schools are not having this policy any longer. She said she feels it limits the relationship between the teachers and principles and interferes with the day-to-day operations which the school board is not part of.

Director Cook asked to have a motion on the next agenda with the option to eliminate the per capita tax. He would like to have this voted on before having to vote on the proposed budget. Director Gernovich asked for clarification on how properly to add this to the next agenda. Mrs. Yetzer said she will work with solicitor to be sure it is added properly.

Director Allen had questions about college courses being offered and will schedule a follow up meeting with Mr. West and Mrs. Bogert. Mr. West indicated NPRC will be offering some courses in the fall and they are working with Robert Morris as a new option as well. They explained they have faced some challenges with online options and also getting professors to come to the CASD campus.

**OTHER MATTERS  
BY BUSINESS  
MANAGER**

Mrs. Clabatz requested a Committee of the Whole for May 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss tax millage options for the budget.

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**OTHER MATTERS** Mrs. Yetzer thanked the staff for presenting the exciting activities happening throughout the district.  
**BY**  
**SUPERINTENDENT**

**ADJOURNMENT** MOTION by Director Nichols and seconded by Director Cook to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 8:16 PM.  
YEAS: Allen, Amy, Cook, Cox, Frisina, Gernovich, Halfast, Maker, Nichols  
NAYS: None

  
Kimberly Spence, Board Secretary